

MUSEUM GRAPHIC LOS ANGELES MUSEUM

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SUPPLEMENT NO. 4

Exotic Butterflies in Annual Show



An Exotic from Central America—
One of Many on Display

tifully arranged display of bees, wasps, beetles and flies as a means of showing the possible range of this kind of collecting in Southern California.

The show will remain on exhibition at the Museum until March 23rd.

Dr. Bryan Returns

After several months of travel abroad following his long illness of last year, Dr. William Alanson Bryan has returned to his duties as Director of the Los Angeles Museum.

With Mrs. Bryan the Director has visited and inspected many of the important museums of the British Isles and of Continental Europe. He has come back to us in recovered health and with a wealth of new ideas to contribute to furthering the functions of the Museum to the cultural interests of Southern California.

New Books in the Reference Library

The Munthe collection of Chinese Art now on exhibition at the Museum has created a demand for books on all phases of art in China. The library has endeavored to meet this desire for accurate knowledge by adding to its shelves some of the most authoritative works on the subject. Among these additions the following are outstanding:

Ashton: Introduction to the Study of Chinese Sculpture.

Binyon: Flight of the Dragon.

Bushell: Chinese Art.

Fry & others: Chinese Art.

Giles: Introduction to History of Chinese Pictorial Art.

Gowen & Hall: Outline of History of China.

Hobson: Later Ceramic Wares of China.

Hobson & Hetherington: Art of the Chinese Potter.

Koop: Early Chinese Bronzes.

Laufer: Beginnings of Porcelain in China.

Laufer: Chinese Clay Figures.

Laufer: Jade.

Petrucci: Chinese Painters.

Pope-Hennessey: Early Chinese Jades.

Siren: Chinese Sculpture.

Waley: Chinese Painting.

These books are to the public a gate to knowledge and comprehensive understanding in a comparatively new field of art interest. In general, most persons possess a very limited conception of the actual age and extent of Chinese Art. It is nearly always a surprise to the layman to be told that China was old when Rome was yet undreamed of.

Chinese Art involves phases of material and spiritual life—history and religion—in a way only too little understood by the Occidental mind. For the one who wishes general knowledge we recommend general histories of art. For the one who is especially interested in a certain kind of art—sculpture, jade, painting, etc.—there are specialized works dealing with each phase and period. Although the library's resources are necessarily limited, it has at present the most nearly complete and comprehensive collection of books on Chinese Art in any Los Angeles library.

The museum library has recently received a collection of rare books, the gift of Mr. E. H. Furman. Gavard's "Galeries Historiques de Versailles," published in Paris in 1838, in nine volumes, is valuable both for its historic worth and for the beautiful old engravings with which it is profusely illustrated.

Of immense value to those interested in Californiana is a bound volume of newspapers from San Francisco covering the entire earthquake and fire period of 1906.

The library is always grateful for gifts of books which will prove valuable to the reference public. May we hope that others will be inspired by this new act of kindness to "add a bit" to the museum library's shelves.

Activities at Otis Art Institute

The winter term which began January third is now half completed and students are in the midst of a number of important projects: Students of painting are grappling with portrait studies, landscapes and still-lives; students of design are busily engaged with a variety of problems, some architectural in character, others pertaining to interior elevation, costume design, stagecraft or advertising design; students of sculpture and craft-work are applying their energies to a number of ambitious projects.

One visiting the school studios is much impressed by the seriousness and enthusiasm which is manifested by the students in their work. Deeply absorbed in the numerous problems presented by their training, they are most earnestly endeavoring to embody their ideas and their feelings in art forms. And one must admire the persistent determination that helps them to cope with the many difficulties which confront every creative worker; to work steadily toward the achievement of art forms which are becoming more and more expressive, requires great love of art and greater strength of purpose.

The studio facilities, although greatly increased in recent years, are taxed to capacity this season of the year by the different departments of the school. The alteration to the Chandler House recently accomplished and the new heating plants installed in the different buildings are much appreciated by the students and faculty.

Department of Marine Life

Twenty-four exhibit cases for the Extension Division have been completed and the work of assembling material to be used in them has been started. Eight cases will be used for minerals, eight for shells, and eight for corals, sponges and other marine invertebrates.

A valuable collection of nearly two thousand shells from Ceylon has been received from Miss Elizabeth Quick of Los Angeles. Many of the species are new to the Reference Collections. The specimens were collected by the donor's mother, who, as the wife of a missionary, lived in Ceylon for many years.

On Saturday afternoon, January 14, members of the Nature Club of Southern California visited the Rancho La Brea exhibit in the Museum. Dr. Chester Stock, Vertebrate Paleontologist, lectured on the Pleistocene Age and discussed the animals of the tar pits. Later Mr. Howard Hill, who is in charge of the department, accompanied the party to Rancho La Brea where the several excavations were inspected.

Department of Entomology

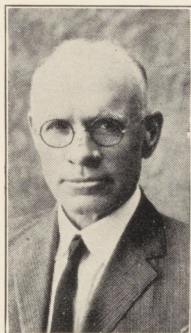
Dr. F. E. Blaisdell of the California Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, recently spent several days working on the department's two collections of Coleoptera. We have now one collection named and classified with scientific exactness and to which students of entomology may have access in order to compare and to name their specimens. There need be now no question as to the accuracy of the identification—Dr. Blaisdell's reputation as a coleopterist is a sufficient guarantee.

As an illustration of the advancement made in the scientific study of Coleoptera, from one group heretofore classified under a specific name four species now recognized as distinct and valid were separated. From another group, fourteen specimens of an entirely different genus were separated. The work of the coleopterist has thus been much simplified and accuracy of determination has been assured. It is hoped that more students of entomology will avail themselves of the opportunities offered by the Museum and unequaled in Southern California.

Various contributions of spiders and other related forms of invertebrates have been gratefully received from Mr. Gordon Grant.

IN MEMORIAM

LUTHER E. WYMAN, *Museum Ornithologist*



January 7, 1928, marked the passing of one of the best-known and best-loved members of the staff of the Los Angeles Museum.

Luther E. Wyman was born in Sycamore, Illinois, September 20, 1867. His career as a student of natural history began in small-boyhood as recorded by a primary teacher who once considered it part of her daily routine to make him empty his pockets of the toads and small lizards which he used to collect on his way to school. While at High School in Sycamore he began and developed a very splendid bird collection which, on his graduation, was divided between the High School and the University of Chicago.

Mr. Wyman graduated in 1892 from Knox University, married in 1899, and was for many years a member of the Chicago Board of Trade. In 1910 his health failed and he went to Idaho, where for four years he contributed to the work of the United States Biological Survey.

While in Chicago he knew and worked with Mr. Frank Daggett, in whom he found a good friend and collector of nature study material. Mr. Daggett later became the first director of the Los Angeles Museum and when the great finds were made in the La Brea Tar Pits and turned over to the Museum, he wired his old friend and offered him charge of the work of excavating the fossil beds. Acceptance of this offer brought Mr. Wyman to California. For two years he supervised the work at La Brea and then joined the Museum staff as ornithologist. He also installed and developed a splendidly equipped photographic department.

For many years Mr. Wyman was secretary and later president of the Cooper Ornithological Club. He was co-author with Elizabeth Burnell of "Handbook of Birds of Southwestern United States," to the writing of which he gave more than two years of untiring research and endeavor.

His passing leaves a gap in the personnel of the Museum that cannot be filled. His *work* can be carried on—faithfully and efficiently; but we cannot hope to have another Luther E. Wyman—the *man*.

Since the death of Mr. Wyman, Mr. George Willet has taken over the preparation, classification and cataloguing of incoming birds and mammals—also the extension work, as far as birds and mammals are concerned. This has been steadily growing until, at the present time we have many hundred of specimens loaned out to nature study departments of the various school systems, as well as to the Audubon Society of California and several scientific institutions.

Mr. M. M. Lincoln has taken over the photographic work begun by Mr. Wyman.

Photography with Mr. Wyman, as is the case with many photographers, developed from a hobby. So important did this department become to the Museum that it was necessary for him to spend a large part of his time in the dark room.

The excellent collection of negatives and prints now in the files bespeaks the quality of his work. His fine lantern slides of natural history subjects have been appreciated by many lecturers and enjoyed by many audiences.

He was an artist as well as a photographer and his lovely photographic studies of "The Sentinel," "The Palms," "The Devil's Garden," "Foot Prints on the Sands of Time," and many other desert subjects leave a charming and masterful record of a hobby turned to practical purposes.

Junior Museum

Mrs. Wayland Morrison's dolls, who have visited The Junior Museum for two months, have returned home, but we expect them back in another year. During their stay there has been much interest and delight in them—evidenced by the number of expressions of appreciation.

The results of the story-writing contest, held in conjunction with the exhibition, have been most gratifying. More than sixty stories were handed in and the judges have commented upon their superior quality. The awarding of the prizes took place February 11th and Mrs. Morrison, who gave the prizes, presented them. Following the program "Movies" were taken of the winners and other children present. These will be released soon by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. Mrs. Morrison has published last year's prize-winning stories in book form. It is anticipated that those of this year will also be published.

A collection of small dolls loaned by Mr. William De Voto will remain on exhibition during February. These little visitors, dressed in their native costumes of gay colors represent countries from every part of the world. Anyone who has been in Germany will remember the Market and Flower girls. There are Market and Flower-girl dolls in the collection—also a Dutch maiden from The Hague, a French baby and a Lady from Andalusia. The collection has just been exhibited in The Art Institute of Chicago.

An exhibition of craftwork and costumes loaned by The Camp Fire Girls has recently been installed. Troups of the girls have already come in for instruction.

Art Department

Portrait of Dr. Bryan Given Museum

The most recent acquisition to the art department is a portrait of Dr. Bryan by Max Wieczorek. This picture was painted in 1924 and exhibited in the annual Painters and Sculptors Show of that year. It will be remembered not only as a very excellent likeness of the sitter but a fine and typical example of this well-known artist's work. It has been presented to the Los Angeles Museum by the Museum Patrons' Association.

An article about Mr. Wieczorek and his portraits, written by E. C. Maxwell, appeared in a recent number of the American Magazine of Art. We cannot do better than to quote: "His masterful portraits of men are genuine characterizations, with nothing left unsaid that need be said, and his graceful figures of women and young girls are studied from a truly pictorial standpoint and make pictures of enduring charm and beauty. The art of Max Wieczorek is the finished product of the refining influence of cultured Europe in the atmosphere in which his student days were spent, and where his early art was developed. Grafted on this influence is the freedom of Western America in which his art has expanded."

The Mrs. Henry E. Everett Collection of Paintings

The Los Angeles Museum is deeply indebted to Mrs. Henry E. Everett for the beautiful exhibition held during January. Her kindness and generosity in lending this collection of paintings were greatly appreciated, not only by the Museum, but by the many visitors to the gallery. It has been a long time since a loan exhibition has been so widely enjoyed.

The work of collecting these pictures has been done with exquisite and discriminating taste and covering as it does a period of twenty or thirty years, the range is wide.

Many outstanding artists who are living now only through their work are represented—beginning with Alexander Wyant, William Morris Hunt, William Chase, John Singer Sargent—and on to painters who today are holding foremost places—Eugene Savage, Arthur B. Davies and John Costigan.

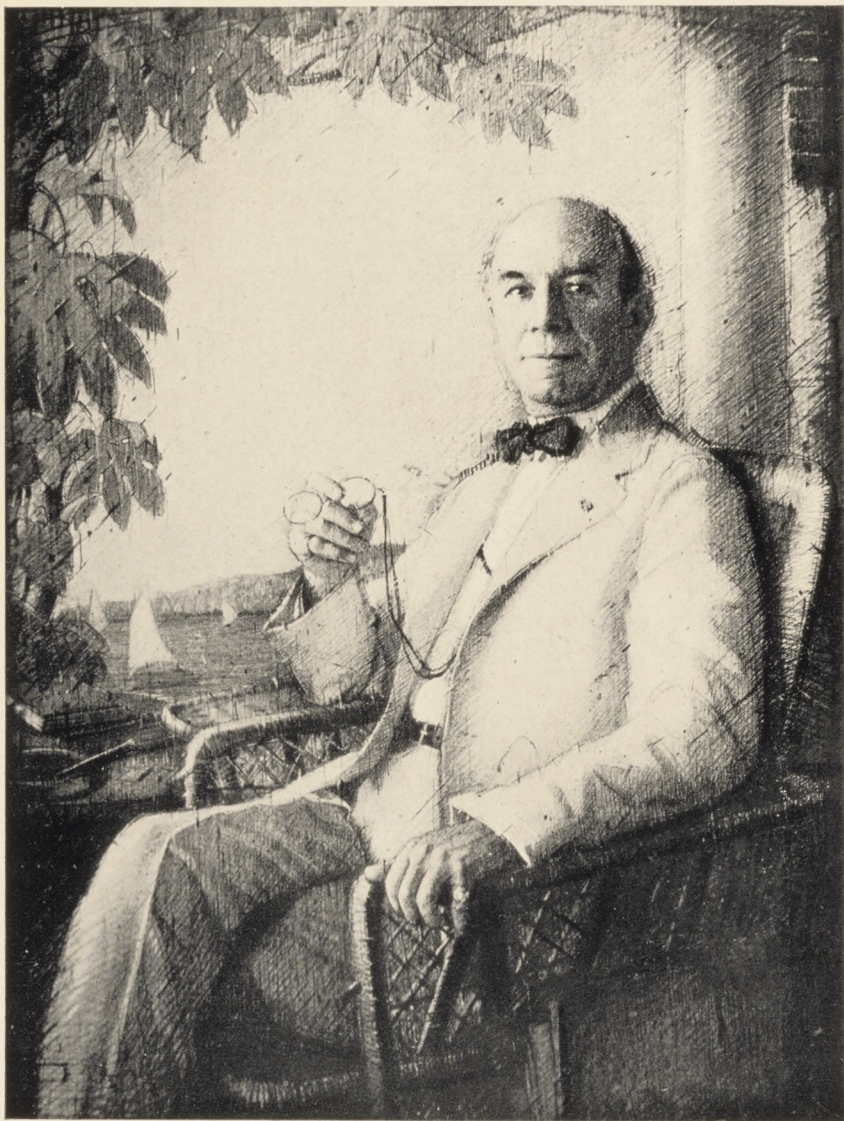
Awards for Miniature Exhibition

The prizes awarded in the eleventh annual exhibition of the California Miniature Society held during February, are as follows:

The Mr. and Mrs. Allan C. Balch prize of \$100 and the Society's Gold Medal to Emma Siboni for "A Modern Eve."

The Mr. and Mrs. Balch prize of \$50 to Gertrude Little for "Reverie."

Mrs. C. H. Baker has offered \$50 as a popular prize and visitors were asked to vote for their choice. The prize has not been awarded at the time this goes to press.



Portrait of Dr. William Alanson Bryan, Director of the Los Angeles Museum, by Max Wieczorek, presented to the Museum by the Museum Patrons' Association.

Lecture Programs

Sunday, March 18, at 2:30 P. M.: MAYA PAGEANT. Captain Dudley S. Corlett will talk on "Ancient and Modern Maya Civilization." Captain Corlett has done a great deal of research work among the ruins of Quirigua, Guatemala and of Palanque in Mexico. His talk will cover his findings there and trace the civilization of the Mayas down to the modern Indian in Guatemala and the pilgrimage to the Black Christ of Esquipulas. It will be illustrated by lantern slides made by Captain Corlett in Guatemala and colored by Dr. John A. Comstock.

Gorgeous textiles, showing two-thousand-year-old patterns, will be exhibited on living models, and the ritual dances of the oldest known and most splendid civilization of the Americas will be performed in costume.

Sunday, April 15, at 3:00 P. M.: "OUTDOOR LABORATORIES IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA." Illustrated lecture by Dr. John A. Comstock, for several months past Acting Director of the Museum and former Director of the Southwest Museum. The current discussion about the establishment of a State Park in California furnishes the incentive for this talk. In all the reserves so far established in California we have none in which a special effort is made to meet the requirements of the botanist and the scientist for the study of natural phenomena. The Joint Parks Committee is therefore endeavoring to establish preserves of this nature where special items of interest such as geological formations, characteristic flora and fauna, etc., may be studied by scientists. Five areas have been picked out as offering the most varied interests of this kind. These are Red Rock Canyon in Kern County, Thousand Palms Canyon, Painted Canyon and the Devil's Garden in Riverside County, and a portion of the Mojave Desert containing the largest known Joshua trees.

Special Art Exhibitions

MARCH

- GALLERY A: Ninth Annual International Print Makers Exhibition under the auspices of the Print Makers Society of California.
- GALLERY E: Water Colors by Dodge MacKnight.
- GALLERY G: Munthe Collection of Chinese Art.
- ALL PRINT ROOMS: Same as Gallery A.

APRIL

- GALLERY A: Ninth Annual Painters and Sculptors Exhibition.
- GALLERY E: Modern East Indian Paintings.
- GALLERY G: Munthe Collection of Chinese Art.
- PRINT ROOMS: Prints by Dorothy Groton.
Small Paintings by Charles J. Rider.